

OSPEL MAN

THE VOICE OF AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMANHOOD

VOL. I — No. 1

August 30, 1995



Welcome
class of
1999



Freshwoman
Orientation
see pages 8-9

SPELMAN STUDENTS RETURN TO HOT TEMPS AND A NEW LOOK

by Dorlisa A. Goodrich
editor-in-chief

The summer of 1995 will go down as one of the hottest in the history of the United States. But even as temperatures reached 100 plus degrees, students and staff at Spelman College will remember it as the year when a 500 space parking facility, a new cafeteria service, a merger of the infirmary and Women's health center, and a brick gateway leading from the back entrance

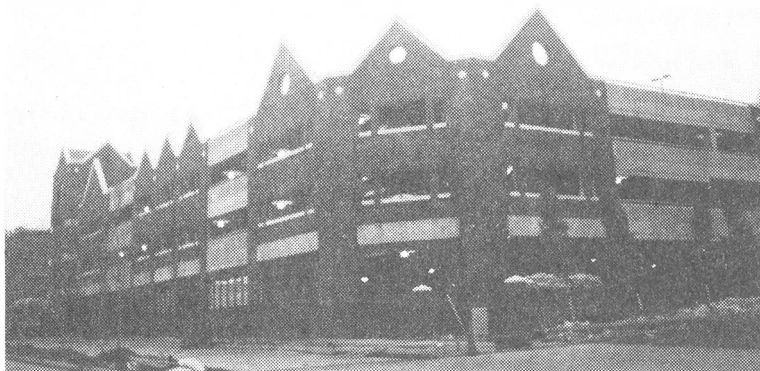
were all introduced to the campus. In addition, the Camille Olivia Hanks Cosby Center is expected to be completed by September 1995.

The parking deck has received, by far, the most attention. Everyone is concerned that there will be less spaces and no one wants to be charged an enormous fee to park. However, as with all new situations, policies

must be implemented. This year, AAA Parking Management Company will handle all parking issues, with Public Safety assisting in enforcing the policies. Sophomores, in addition to juniors and seniors, will be allowed to park on campus. But because

will cost a \$3 flat rate with no in and out privileges. Everyone who wishes to park on campus, including faculty and staff, **must** pay a parking fee with no exceptions.

Public Safety also will move its offices into the parking deck.



parking for residents is limited to 250 spaces, students should prepare for the first-come, first-served policy. Residents will pay \$700 a year or \$350 per semester with in and out privileges. Commuter students will pay \$.75 per half hour or a maximum of \$3 daily, Monday through Friday, with no in and out privileges. Weekends and daily from 7pm-7am

Mr. Steve Bowser, director, contends that his staff of 30 will be more comfortable in this new facility. He also states that many of the old regulations will still be observed, including towing cars that are not enrolled in the parking contract and continuing the 15 minute drop off limit for students and visitors.

He also asks for everyone's patience and cooperation until all of the glitches are analyzed and corrected.

As the year progresses, we hope to see many of the parking nightmares eliminated with the addition of the parking deck.

**See inside for more stories on a New Look!*

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InShort

Around the World

Ebola-The Centers for Disease Control and prevention have been recently presented with the most current findings on the plague-Ebola. The disease found earlier this year in central Africa still remains without a cure. While the disease itself has yet to be found here in the United States, it is extremely contagious with fatality numbers of 96% and higher. Although the medical team was unable to give definite answers to most questions, they sincerely believe the disease stems from improper disinfection of medical supplies.

MISCELLANEOUS

Olympics- As Georgia nears the Summer Olympics 96 activities, it seems that the enthusiasm that once filled the state no longer exists. Georgia State University has polled residents for the past four and a half years and in current results have noticed a surprisingly substantial drop in statewide interest. It seems that not only have many people lost their enthusiasm about the upcoming events, most don't even seem to be interested in attending. Most residents polled admittedly feel that Atlanta will not and is not equipped to handle such a burden that Olympics 96 is expected to create, regardless of its honor.

Arts & Entertainment

Atlanta Opera-Once again the Fox Theatre opens its doors to the first season of the Atlanta Opera. The Opera will open with their version of Giuseppe Verdi's grand opera, *Aida*. Opening August 31st, under the direction of William Fred Scott, the lead singer will be Camellia Johnson. *Aida*, the story which debuted in Cairo, Egypt in 1871, has been held as the most loved operatic presentation, depicting the tale of an enslaved Ethiopian princess and her Egyptian lover. *Aida* promises to be one of the most "colorful" operas ever performed here in Atlanta; a must see for all.

Spelman Spotlight 1995 • 1996 STAFF

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BEYOND the GATES
OnSite Info.
Spotlight
Health Vibe
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The Spelman Spotlight welcomes all submissions. All submissions (artwork, vents, letters to the editor, cartoons, articles, etc.) will be reviewed and considered as space permits. Submissions will be subjected to the scrutiny of the Senior Editorial Staff only. Any work containing slanderous material will be rejected. This is the only criteria for the submission. There will be no censorship. However, words that may be considered to be offensive to the readership of this paper will be altered by replacing all vowels with a dot or asterisk.

Editorial opinions expressed do not necessarily represent those of the Spotlight or Spelman. Submissions should be sent through Campus mail via Box 1234 or placed within the folder on the Spotlight office door (Lower Manley Rm. 104). All submissions should adhere to the posted deadlines. Spotlight reserves the right to retain a work submitted.

The Spotlight is published bimonthly and has a circulation of 1,000. The Spotlight staff meets on Mondays at 7:00 pm in the Spotlight office. Signs will be posted for meeting dates.
NEXT MEETING: September 11, 1995

Perusing Campus

Clubs and Organizations Across Spelman's Campus

by Dorlisa A. Goodrich and Tasha Smith

Honor Societies

Beta Kappa Chi Honor Society for the Sciences

Golden Key Club

Phi Kappa Lambda for Political Science Majors

Psi Chi for Psychology Majors

Mortar Board for Seniors

Senior Honor Society

Sigma Tau Delta for English Majors

Alpha Lamada Delta for Freshmen

Academic and Professional Clubs

There is a club designated for the interests of all Spelman majors. In addition, there are many professional clubs on campus including:
National Society of Black Engineers


The Negro Business and Professional Women's Club

Phi Gamma Nu for Business Students

Sigma Alpha Iota Music Fraternity

Special Interest Organizations

This section includes all religious, state, political, and extra-curricular organizations.



p e e k - a - b o o

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OnSite Info.

Cafe Service Pledges Better Food and Service

By Dorlisa A. Goodrich
Editor-in-chief

Out with the old, in with the new, seems to be the motto for the 1995-96 school year. That's because Spelman is committed to bringing the best to it's students and has succeeded in contracting a new food service to replace Gourmet Services, which had been with Spelman for three years.

This year Aramark- Jack Mont, Inc. food services will handle all dietary needs for the school. In addition, they have pledged to revamp the food court to include a variety of fast food services.

The Alma Upshaw Dining Hall, located in Upper Manley, will feature eight new restaurant concepts to whet the appetites of even the most discriminating students. These food lines include **Cafe Features** which will serve home style meals; **Treat Yourself Right** will offer healthy dining choices; **Grille Works** will feature burgers, hot dogs, and fries; the **Salad Garden** will have a variety of fresh vegetables and dressings; **Deli Corner** offers all types of meats and cheeses for a tasty sandwich; the **World's Fare** will rotate delectable dishes from around the world; **Sweet Things** is for those who love desserts such as cookies, brownies, and ice cream; and

there will be a **Drinks** bar with a variety of soft-drinks and juices.

But most students are excited about the food court options that will be available in Lower Manley. Aramark is pleased to bring Ben & Jerry's ice cream, Freshens yogurt, Mrs. Field's cookies, Chick-fil-A, Avanti Gourmet Coffee, Healthy Choice, and Coca-Cola to the Spelman community.

Now if only we could get memberships to fitness clubs to stay in shape after eating all of this delicious food.

Make A Joyful Noise Unto The Lord

by Tasha Smith
Minister of Music for Sisters Chapel

Sisters Chapel Gospel Choir is back in full swing again this year. In this new academic year, the choir plans to expand by leaps and bounds through the grace of God and all of His goodness. Not only are we looking forward to our

annual concert in November, but we also plan to have our new choir robes before midterms. This year the choir hopes to be able to continue to enhance the spiritual atmosphere of Sisters Chapel, not only on Sunday's, but always.

As Minister of Music, I realize the great responsibility that the Lord placed upon me. I also realize what is left to be done in His kingdom. I can only rely on your prayers to see me through. I thank you for all of your support, both past and present and I ask that you keep Sisters Chapel Ministry in your prayers.

Watch for upcoming events involving Sisters Chapel Ministry and other religious organizations across the AUC.

Choir rehearsals begin in two weeks. Look for signs posted on campus.

OnSite Info.

Women's Health Center and Infirmary

Unite as One

by Dorlisa A. Goodrich
Editor-in-chief

Do you have a runny nose, need relief from painful cramps, or just want to confirm that you really do have the flu? If so, let's hope these ailments occur between the hours of 7am-7pm because this year the Infirmary and Women's Health Center have merged to create a new Health Services in order to better assess the health needs of Spelman students.

This year, the Health Services Center will no longer operate on a 24 hour basis. Instead, Public Safety, will handle any emergencies by first calling an ambulance and then paging a staff member from Health Services who will be on call from 7pm-7am.

So why all of the enormous changes? According to Brenda Dalton, the new director of health services, a study was conducted to evaluate the utilization of health services. The staff believes that this consolidation will be more cost effective. Their main goal is to promote education and self-care in order to maintain a healthy college environment.

But what happens if you do get sick? If it's between 7am-7pm Monday through Friday, go to the office (enter on the side) and you will be seen by a

nurse practitioner who will treat you in a professional and respectable manner. If she cannot diagnose the situation, a doctor will be consulted. For those students who cannot get out of bed, staff members will make house calls to each residence hall, twice a day.

For those with more serious illnesses, three beds will be maintained in the health services center. Norma Fuqua, nurse practitioner, contends that laboratory tests will be conducted in a more effective and timely manner to accurately diagnose illnesses.

This year residence halls will be equipped with care packages to handle minor symptoms. The kit will include Chlro-Trimeton, Extra-Strength Tylenol, Pepto-Bismol, and Benadryl and may be obtained from the resident director or resident assistants.

An open house will be held on September 1, so that students and staff can see how the health center has changed in the way of structure, clinical, and administration to provide the best health care that Spelman can offer.

Hopefully the changes to the health services will aid the students in obtaining better health services and provide a link to promoting preventative health care.

Health Vibes

TIPS

Avoid the Freshman 15
by Eating Healthy

Avoid Sleep Deprivation and Other Unhealthy Habits

Drink the recommended daily allowance of at least 8 glasses of water

BEWARE of
HOTlanta

- humidity
- high pollen count
- heat/sun

Beyond The Gates

Supreme Court Lays Down Law

by Mary Blatch
co-editor

The political scene of America went through many changes this summer. Of course, changes were expected with the inauguration of the 104th and extremely Republican congress, by way of their Contract With America. Congress was very busy all summer, but some of the more extreme changes in the law came from the United States Supreme Court, and directly related to civil rights. These decisions may in all likelihood affect many students of the AUC, seeing as how these decisions are pronouncements on programs whose purpose is to fight discrimination. There were three cases over the summer

focused on these programs and practices.

The first case dealt with Affirmative action. A white-owned construction company challenged the awarding of a government contract to a minority-owned construction company. The white-owned construction company offered a lower bid, but the contract was awarded to a minority-owned company in accordance with a government affirmative action program.

The essence of the Supreme Court decision merely stated that affirmative action programs need to be re-examined and held to higher, more exacting standards. It was not a ruling on the constitutionality of affirmative action. However, with the Supreme Court obviously not taking a stand for the continuation of affirmative action, detractors of the program were vindicated. These programs had already been under attack by conservatives seeking to put an end to other programs,

and this decision provided extra momentum to do just that. Republican presidential candidate Governor Pete Wilson of California ended all forms of preferences and affirmative action within the University of California system, the nation's largest public university system. He is also attempting to end all affirmative action programs the state of California sponsors. These affirmative action programs do not solely affect racial or ethnic minorities, but also women and those of economic minorities. On the other side of the debate, President Clinton released his report on affirmative action, which he says proves the need for the continuation of the programs, but that they need to be redefined.

All the media attention is making affirmative action not only a decisive issue for the upcoming election, but also a divisive issue, with the nation and the parties themselves at odds on different sides of the debate.

The other two big cases were decided on the same day. They dealt with desegregation of schools and the redistricting of congressional districts. The desegregation of schools case was overshadowed by the redistricting case, but it was significant nonetheless. In it, the justices ruled that a judge is no longer within his bounds to order the desegregation of a school by use of bussing or other means. This essentially ends an era begun in 1954 by *Brown v. Board of education*.

Perhaps the most radical decision the Supreme Court handed down was the decision concerning the 11th Congressional District of Georgia and its constitutionality.

The 11th district stretches in and out of many areas of Georgia, creating a majority black congressional district. This district was won in November 1994 by Democrat Cynthia McKinney. The case did go to court in Georgia before the election, and the district was upheld

Beyond The Gates

as valid. The case was filed by a group of white voters who alleged the oddly-shaped district interfered with their constitutional rights because it was drawn along strictly racial lines. They felt that Congresswoman McKinney might not represent their best interests and that was not fair.

The Supreme Court ruled that it was unconstitutional to draw congressional district lines according to race. Race can no longer be a factor when drawing congressional districts. This decision will directly affect other districts currently being challenged on the basis of race.

Reaction to the decision was mixed. This is because it will also affect much more than the racial make-up of congressional districts.

In drawing majority black or Hispanic districts, Democrats often lost districts while Republicans gained districts. The reason for this is because the Democrats will often include a minority area in a marginal district because minorities tend to vote Democratic. When all minorities lumped into one

district, Democrats may win that district, but at a cost of losing two or three others to the Republicans. Thus, redistricting will become much more than an issue of race.

Affirmative action, desegregation of schools, and the redistricting of congressional districts are issues important to the nation as a whole, but especially to minorities. Minority groups are vowing they will fight what they perceive to be an all-out attack on their civil rights.

News briefs...

*compiled from briefs
found in Creative
Loafing magazine*

In the month of August, temperatures reached a high of 102 which broke the record set

in 1954. . .

Mickey Mantle's funeral was held in Dallas. . .

Hurricane Felix raced toward North Carolina. . .

A rally was held in West End in support of Jamil Abdullah Al-Amin, the former H. Rap Brown. . .

Michael Jackson goes online to answer questions posed by his fans. . .
Shannon Faulkner, the first female to enter The Citadel, an all-male military college, withdrew after heat exhaustion. . .

Bobby Brown was arrested after kicking a security guard in a West Hollywood

wood hotel. . .

As storms blew into Atlanta, lightning hit the Georgia Dome, while wind ripped holes in the panels of the Dome's roof. . .
Mike Tyson won his first fight after his release from prison. The fight lasted 1 minute and 29 seconds. . .
Marcus Wayne Chenault, the man who shot Martin Luther King Jr's mother, died after being in a coma for two weeks. . .
Senate committee votes to approve a map that dismantles two mostly black districts. . .
President Clinton turned 49 years old.

Spotlight

FRESHWOMAN ORIENTATION

Leaving One Family to Enter Another

by Dorlisa A. Goodrich
Editor-in-Chief

As the temperatures rose to an all time high on Sunday August 20, excited new students knew the inevitable would soon happen. The time had come all too soon for them to separate from their immediate families to join in the circle of their new Spelman sisters.

After the wonderful dessert hour with Dr. Johnetta Cole in Lower Manley, (not tent this year), parents and students began their journey upstairs to enter into the first stage of the Spelman initiation process.

Upper Manley was the site for the second annual Parting Ceremony. This was an African ritual that combined two religious traditions- a blessing and a rite of passage, for the daughters who are now entering Spelman.

As everyone gathered in Alma Upshaw Dining Room, Rev. Gail Bowman, began her

speech on the parting process. She asked parents (and other family members) to remember back, eighteen years ago, when their daughters took their first steps, to the time when they became women, and finally to a time when they took their first steps into a hot dorm room on Spelman's campus. These are things that should be kept in mind as the moment comes to say good-bye to one another.

After this heart-felt speech, Rev. Bowman then made a special request to parents to give final words of advice to their daughters. Comments ranged from "eat your vegetables" to Felicia Pollard's mother reminding her to remember her priorities and stay in her books. Pier Carey's mom told her to be patient, have a good personality, and accept challenges. Imani Banks remembers that her parents told her to always be open-minded and supportive because these things will make you successful, not only at Spelman, but also in the world.

The ceremony ended with the beating of African drums as Spelman women migrated to Sister's Chapel and parents reluctantly turned toward the new parking deck as they began their trip back home, but this time without their daughters.

Sisterhood is Global

by Karan Kendrick
staff writer

It was hot. And crowded. And noisy. But the excitement and curiosity of nearly 500 new Spelman sisters packed into Sister's Chapel (which holds 1050 for all of you who didn't answer the question right) kept anxious spirits soaring at the "Sisterhood is Global Rally."

For the first time of many to come, the class of 1999 was greeted by our "Sister Prez" with three familiar words, "My Spelman Sistas;" and with a little help from our second "Sister Prez," Hope Demps, the "Sisterhood is Global" rally was well underway.

The idea for this annual event is a lesson in life-- sisters are forced to let go of the familiar, and embrace the unknown. But soon after being divided by region, country, and state, students began to realize, no matter where they turned, they had a sister.

After a day filled with informal sessions, the rally was a welcomed relief to the beginning of the "first week blues." Students were able to savor a taste of the lighter side of Spelman, and were introduced to the competition, excitement, and love that comes with the territory of the sisterhood.

Spotlight

ON WEEK BEGINS JOURNEY

From a Freshwoman's Perspective

*by an Anonymous Freshman student
contributing writer*

What a rush! So many things to do with so many new faces, was a challenge. But I enjoyed every minute of this college experience. Not only do I love Spelman but like so many others, I like having all my sisters. But my sisters and I unfortunately have some problems even though we had a lot of fun.

As a very challenging school, all of the young women here are empowered, dynamic, bold and organized. So when registration time came, we had a huge reality check. As an organized woman, I knew how I wanted my schedule. However, after leaving lower Manley, I had no idea of what classes I was taking to what time the class begins. The moral of the story is; it is not good to get an already confused freshmen and lead her to the twilight zone.

The part I found the most fun was the chants and cheers taught to us by our student orientation leaders, members of the student government and

residential assistants. That effort was a great ice-breaker. For the most part, this week has been alright. I just think that freshmen are meant to have a hard time—just not at Spelman College.

Perspectives on New Student Orientation Week

*by Wandra C. Hunley
contributing writer*

Every year I am an SOL, and every year afterwards I swear that I'm not going to apply again. I'm glad that I inevitably change my mind by the time SOL interviews begin. I realize now just how much I enjoy being here for the new students. This year was no exception. Make no mistake, being an SOL is an act of sacrifice, and a labor of love for me. But after the sleepless nights, and the early mornings, I feel good about what I've done. This year was no exception.

I can tell you without reservation that the class of 1999 is highly excellent. These women are some of the most talented beings that I have ever had the privilege to be associated with. I thoroughly enjoyed my week with the ladies. I'm not even as salty as I once was about standing on top of the parking deck in 105 degree heat for almost 6 hours. (Okay, so maybe I am still salty about that, but I'm sure I'll get over it. Eventually.) My point is, time is a great equalizer, all things being equal, the new student orientation week can be called a success.

There were several changes made to the orientation process this year. For one, the Office of Admissions is now the Office of Admissions and Orientation. Secondly, the entire check-in process was vastly improved. Gone were the tent and mosquitoes of yesterday, hello ceiling and air condition of Manley. Parent and student orientation meetings were moved to Sunday this year, relieving much of the first day tension usually present.

Sure there were shags, mishaps, mix-ups, and much miscommunication. But there were also 495 beautiful young women who came together to create the class of 1999.

At Your Leisure

Fashion Express

by Ayo Williams
Co-Editor

There's never only one way of true distinction for any individual, but given the fact that five hundred, yes count them, five hundred new faces just stepped onto the Spelman scene, it seems almost crazy not to give them, as well as those of you who have been here, before a quick look at the "Looks" of the moment. For most of the summer, due to intense temperatures and sickening amounts of humidity, most of us have adorned as much of the barely there clothing as possible, everything from shorts to short shorts, halter tops, tanktops, tee backs, baby tees, cut offs, minis and the list goes on. But nothing could have been more explosive than the sundress which came out in a series of random colors shapes and sizes. From the off set, the versatility of the sundress could be seen by all and was soon seen on all. Varying in textures, there were sundresses for all occasions- from a casual date to a semi formal party and now even

as the season ends with this last heat wave, it's more than certain there will even be sun dresses appropriate for the first few weeks of school.

Outside of sundresses and the norm, the fashion industry's summer favorite remains at the top of the list as this year's inspired linen designs once again proved that while linen remains one of the world's coolest fabrics, it has the ability to take on the shape of the new trendier styles that emerge with every coming season- palazzo pants, bell bottoms, sundresses, etc.

But that's enough about all that was cool. The question is why and will it continue to be. Of course. Why are sundresses so cool this summer and extension into the fall simply because of the versatility they offer to whomever would buy one. A sundress could be worn with sneakers and a baseball cap for a more casual look, with sandals for a simple yet "pretty" look, with flip

flops on the beach as a cover up, with pumps for a more dressy look. So as you can see, one sundress can take you a lot of places. And then again, face it ladies, for a sundress on average you may spend maybe from twenty to fifty dollars but hey, that's the whole outfit. Kinda cheap if you ask me. As well as sundresses the summer also brought out a treasure chest full of accessories to give everyone's sun style a special touch of their own, from patent leather which has shown up in everything from shoes to belts to sneakers to jewelry and now here in the fall as actual pieces of clothing, to jellies which came back for a second trip around the fashion track. All to be worn according to one's individual preference.

Now what about all that other stuff that I didn't mention. Well it's still around. This year's style of choice being that of the Eastern influence has ladies breaking loose in dresses and shoes and tops designed to match those with an Asian flavor, but that doesn't

mean you should push that daishiki to the back of your closet; it's more reason to bring it out as clothes that are culturally inspired add more pizzazz to the fashion scene why not use your own cultural as input.

As a final say, fashion is nothing more than a form of expression, a look nothing more than a glance and before you know it, without even knowing it you would've done them both. So wear what you feel looks good and you'll feel good. After all, every true diva of fashion knows it's not what you wear but how you wear it.

**Several
positions
are
open on
the
Spotlight
staff**

At Your Leisure

No Danger in Dangerous Minds

by Mary Blatch
Co-editor

"She's got to fight against the system. She's got to rage against injustice, and rise above the hate." This is how the trailer for the movie "Dangerous Minds" begins. Hearing these words describe Michelle Pfeiffer made me laugh, and when I saw that the "system", "injustice", and "hate" that she was supposed to be fighting had to do with the inner-city youth that she is teaching, I laughed harder. Michelle Pfeiffer is the good guy, the black school principal is the bad guy and the kids are just there in the middle trying to survive. You can draw your own conclusions from that setup. The kids in Pfeiffer's class are bussed in from rougher neighborhood to Pao Alto, California. The school has placed all the kids in a "special" class that is notorious

for making teachers retire early. (Isn't it funny how in movies about high school, kids only have one class, and during recess they dance around with boomboxes?) When Pfeiffer first meets the class, they immediately dub her "white bread". Of course, they are not bad kids, it's just that no one has given them a chance. They don't have any extraordinary problems, past broken families and poverty. I found it refreshing that this movie did not focus on the kids.

Pfeiffer visits parents of her students and the parents are portrayed as caring people with the well-being of their children on their mind. Quite in opposition to the demoralized ghetto family the media often likes to portray. The movie makes the bureaucracy of the school system into the bad guys (it's about time!). The principal is depicted as indifferent to the plight of the students. Instead of helping kids "rise above the hate" he makes them knock before entering and is intolerant of any method of teaching that's not by the book.

The main message of this movie is

that with a little caring and understanding you can overcome many problems. I don't know if this is necessarily true, and I don't know how true to life the movie is (although it is supposed to be based on a true story), but it's not too bad a movie (the soundtrack's probably better though).

Do All of God's Children Need Travelling Shoes?

by Tasha Smith
Section Editor

Maya Angelou's descriptive interpretations of her life experiences while living in Ghana are an extraordinary documentary to life as an African-American on returning to the Motherland. Her style and use of pros draws you closer

to each new experience as you turn each page. This autobiography of this minute section in the life of one of our peoples' most extraordinary woman takes through both her heights and drops as each new day dawns. This reporter got the distinct impression of "going thru the motions" with her.

In this expose on her life, Ms. Angelou describes her experiences of awkwardness and her longing for home (the United States) when she is shunned by the very same people that she expected to embrace her. She realizes that it's not as easy as Marcus Garvey claimed.

All God's Children Need Traveling Shoes is a description of how a mother copes with the rebellions of her only child, starting over in a new place, creating a home environment in which she can feel comfortable, and making a name and a niche for herself when she is neither appreciated or wanted.

In my opinion it is excellent reading for all of God's children.

VOICES

Letters of Welcome

Greetings from the Editor:

As the 1995-96 school year begins, I want to welcome you to an exciting year at Spelman. As editor of the Spotlight, it is my goal to keep the Spelman community abreast of current events occurring around the world, nation, AUC area, and of course, the Spelman community. But the Spelman Spotlight staff cannot do this task alone.

We need your support in our publication efforts! In this regard, we need more aspiring writers, editors, and photographers on staff. We also need your continuous readership and request that you provide us with constructive suggestions so that we may continue to produce a quality paper for you and the community around us.

Remember, this is your publication and without your support, your voice cannot be heard!

With warmest regards,



Dorlisa A. Goodrich

SSGA and you: Striving for the Gold--

She who receives and clutches the baton to the finish line brings victory to the entire team. Spelman Student Government Association (SSGA) sees every Spelmanite's participation on campus as the track runner's performance- necessary for success. With your creativity, leadership, and commitment to excellence, SSGA invites you to join its team. From homecoming activities to voter registration drives, SSGA encourages all students to get involved in making this year an Olympic gold one.

Grab the baton! Together, let's strive for the gold!

Sincerely,

Hope Demps

SSGA President

VENT

Registration Blues

by An Anonymous
Freshman
contributing writer

Spelman College is an extraordinary institution. That is why New Student Orientation has been extraordinary as well. Our SOL's, RA's and SGA's members have done an excellent job in acquainting us with the campus and the new experience of college life. Our activities have been well-planned and I've had a great deal of fun. My biggest complaint about my first week at Spelman however, is the financial aid department. I am aware that Spelman College is firmly committed to making every effort to help qualified applicants secure financial resources, however, I did not receive any assistance from the financial aid office. In fact, I felt as though I was given the run-around. In addition to lack of assistance from the financial aid office, I felt that the registration process was very time-consuming and unfair. I spent more than 2 1/2 hours registering and still did not

receive all the classes I had anticipated. In the future it would probably be better to register students by telephone or some other method. I am sure many of my Spelman sisters would agree that the procedure we experienced was very tedious and disappointing as well.

Exchange Information

by Tawanna C. Browne
Stanford University
contributing writer

So far my first week as an exchange student has been a recurring tale of *deja vu*. I find myself trying to define for me and for everyone else where I fit in. Memories of freshmen year dance in my head while the common arrogance of seniorhood rise to my blank face. I must admit that it has been weird trying to find my niche again. Orientation week is very much geared towards freshmen, as it should be; however as an exchange student you often find yourself lost and out of the mix.

First of all, I arrived on Monday, two days later than the scheduled

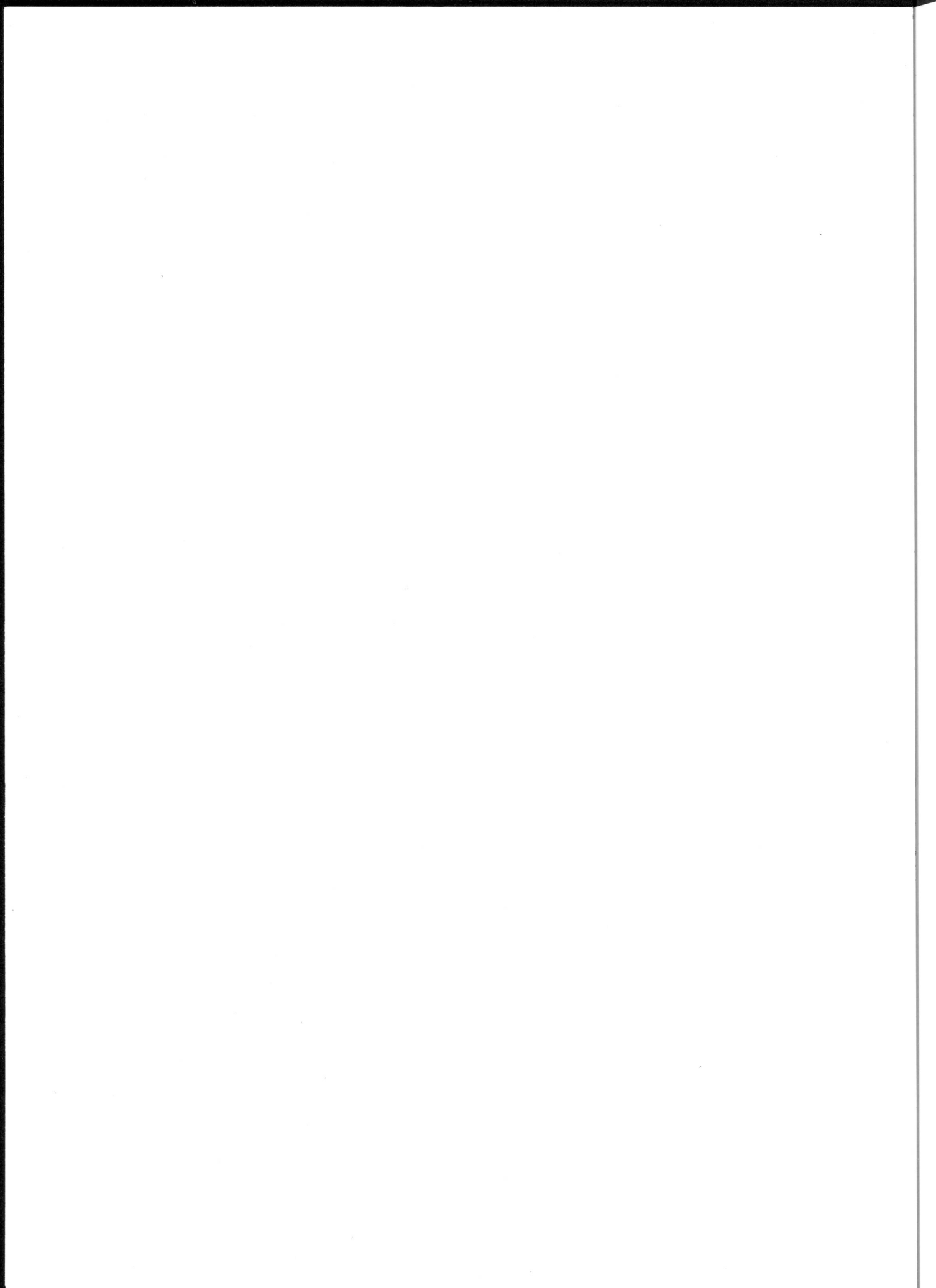
arrival. Before I even got to Spelman's campus, I had distinguished myself from the regular new students. "Why should I have to arrive on Saturday? I mean, yes, I am a new student, but I'm a far cry from being a new college student. Three long years at Stanford have taught me the tricks of the trade and as a senior, I should be giving orientation, not getting it." Those were the thoughts rushing through my mind as I prepared for my arrival. But I realized deep down inside that I was as much a freshmen to Spelman's campus as the true freshmen were. I didn't know my left from my right and running around with my tail between her legs. Rockefeller Center? Where's that? What's an SOL? Now where are we supposed to be? What? A white dress with nude stockings and black shoes? You have got to be kidding?

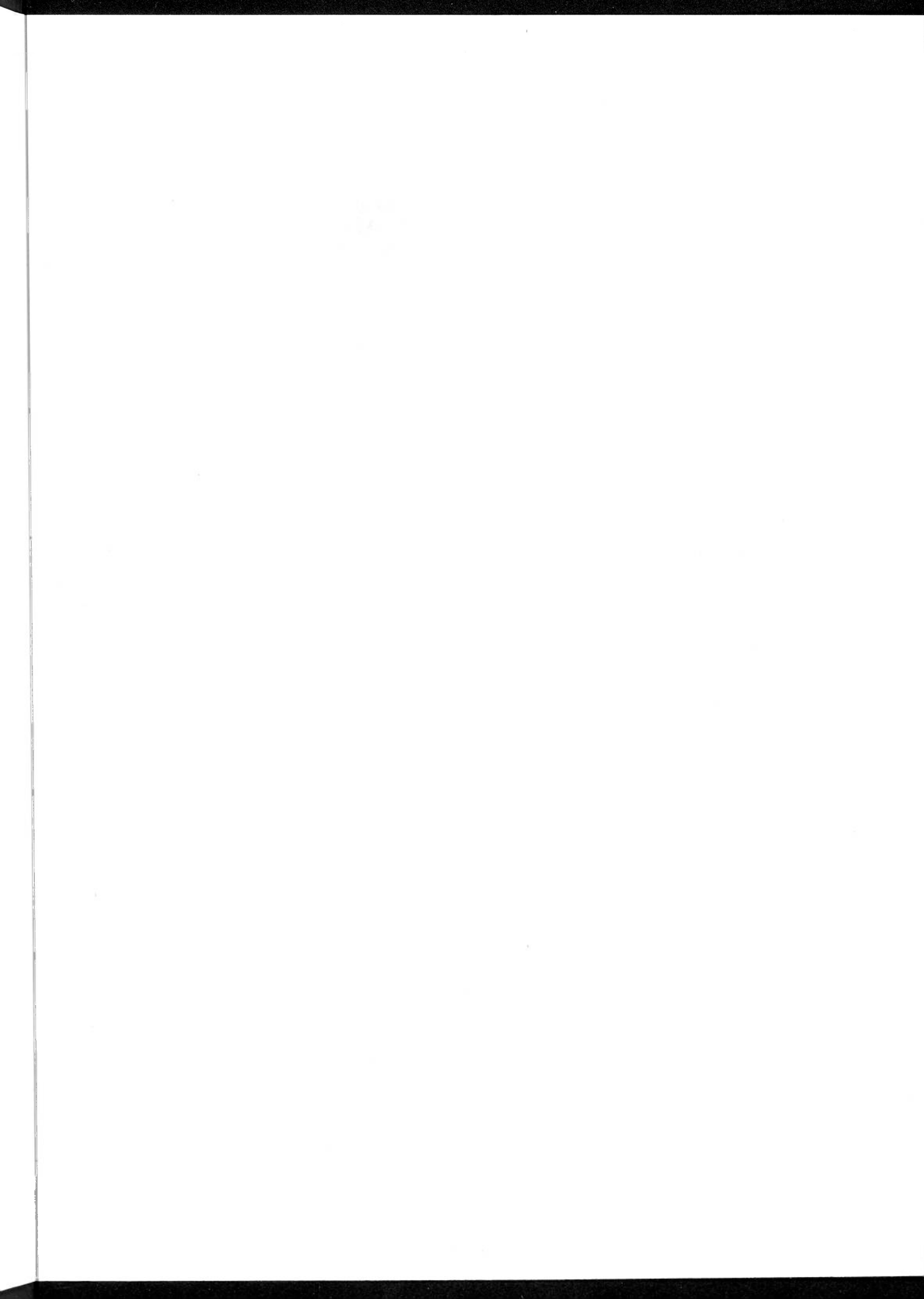
Being that I am an exchange student, I didn't simply take what was being fed to me. I didn't want to hear no rules and regulations nor no "You're now embarking on womanhood" speeches. I felt like I

had already embarked on my journey and that I was at the hindleg of it. However, I know that I am on a new journey, a journey that will be shorter than most but valuable and significant nonetheless. The informationals, the environment, the literature and the people have informed me of this.

My maturity has allowed me to take it upon myself to venture out and learn about Spelman on my own. It has also rid me of feeling like a stepchild. But in essence, I guess that's what I am. I'm realizing that now. For it will have to take me in one semester, what it will take my younger counterparts in four year, to get to that point of sisterhood.

**Remember
that the
first
Spotlight
meeting
is Sept.
11**





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